

may put aside only about one-half as much in an IRA as a two-income couple. Furthermore, if the wage earner in a one-income couple participates in an employee pension plan, there are further limits on total IRA contributions.

Clearly, the tax code discriminates against spouses—primarily women—who work at home.

In order to end this unequal treatment and to promote private retirement savings, I today have introduced a bill to permit full, \$2,000 IRA contributions by nonworking spouses. Under my bill, a nonworking spouse could make a deductible IRA contribution, just as working spouses do under current law. An identical Senate bill has been introduced today by Senators HUTCHINSON and MIKULSKI.

Congress should take the lead in promoting equal treatment, equal employment choice, and retirement security for American homemakers. I hope my colleagues will join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF QUEENS PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pause a moment to recognize the critical roles that public libraries play in our communities. The public libraries of today are not just book lenders, but instead serve as community hubs, cultural centers, reference and research facilities, and on-ramps to the information superhighway. An excellent example of a modern public library is the Queens Borough Public Library, the largest public library system in the country.

Queens Library recently conducted a survey to see how well they were doing in serving this most vibrant and diverse community. They were pleased to note that 85 percent of Queens residents use the Queens Borough Public Library, including 83 percent of the teenagers. The survey also showed that the library was succeeding in its attempts to reach out to all Queens residents, including those who don't speak English as their first language.

Among the many services that the library offers to its community are: educational programs for children and adults, including basic literacy instruction and English as a second language courses; a database on local community services programs; a public access point to the Internet; "New Americans" programs, which provide citizenship education for recent immigrants and assistance in integrating more easily into society, and cultural programs. In fact, one of the major undertakings of the library is a new Asian Cultural Center in its Flushing branch, dedicated to promoting understanding and appreciation of Asian culture, as well as serving the borough's Asian community.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the vital role that Queens Borough Public Library and public libraries around the country are playing in their communities. The modern public library is a lifelong learning center and an integral part of the community it serves.

BLOOMINGTON LOVES ITS KIDS

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Bloomington as it kicks off its seventh annual "Bloomington Loves Its Kids" month on January 31.

This month-long celebration, which fosters community and family development, is a way of rewarding and honoring contributions to the community, both individually and through civic organizations. The emphasis will be on celebrating youths who contribute to the community and the way organizations can make a difference for our youth.

The celebration will feature entertaining and informative exhibits from over 50 community groups. There will be performances from dance companies, theater groups, bands and orchestras. Businesses will be sponsoring activities such as a coloring contest, a treasure hunt, and a celebration of outstanding students.

By creating a community event which provides entertainment and enrichment for its citizens, from toddlers through seniors, the city of Bloomington, MN, has provided a model for American community enhancement.

This is a terrific example of the type of program from which everyone benefits. By uniting the entire civic and business community around celebrating children, future generations will be well served.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the city of Bloomington for making the concerted and successful effort to enhance its community and the lives of its citizens. I am proud to announce February as Bloomington Loves Its Kids month.

HONORING ABRAHAM GRABOWSKI

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to honor my constituent, Abraham Grabowski, who is being honored this week by the RAIN Eastchester Senior Center.

Mr. Grabowski, who is 98 years young, is one of the few living veterans of World War I. Through his long and productive life, he has seen many changes and performed many good deeds. Perhaps the greatest of those deeds is his service in defense of freedom. This service took him from his home in New York to Canada, England, Egypt, and Palestine. He even returned to Israel in 1967 for the 50th anniversary of the Allenby Brigade, an all-Jewish unit that fought under British command to free Palestine from Turkish rule.

Mr. Grabowski eventually settled in Co-op City, where he was an original tenant of building 21. His interesting stories have been a source of pride among his neighbors and fellow senior citizens.

Mr. Grabowski has said he would like to return to Israel for his 100th birthday. I am confident he will be able to make that trip, and I extend my best wishes and congratulations to him on behalf of my constituents.

TRIBUTE TO CAROL LYNN KELLEY

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to pay tribute to one of our outstanding citizens in Virginia's 11th Congressional District, Carol Lynn Kelley of Lake Barcroft.

Carol, known as Kari to her friends, was born 40 years ago in Woonsocket, RI to Margaret and Stacia Klara. A 1972 graduate from Woonsocket High School, she graduated from Vassar College in 1976, and obtained her law degree from Case Western University School of Law in Cleveland in 1979. She practiced law in Cleveland until 1985, when she moved to Fairfax County, VA.

After being admitted to the Virginia bar she practiced law in northern Virginia from 1986 to 1992. At that time Kari decided to devote more time to her two young daughters, Elizabeth (Lizzy) and Allison and the community where she and her husband Tim make their home.

Kari has been active in the PTA's at Ellen Glasgow Middle School and Pinecrest School. She is an active Brownie leader in Falls Church and a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church.

Last year Mrs. Kelly was appointed to the Fairfax County Civil Service Commission, a body which adjudicates disputes in the Fairfax County government and makes recommendations on civil service policy.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring Kari Kelly, an outstanding mother, attorney, civic activist, and civil service commissioner as her friends and community leaders honor her on Saturday January 28, 1995 at the Morse Estate in Falls Church.

THE PROGRESSIVE PROMISE: FAIRNESS

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, in contrast with the GOP's Contract With America, we shall offer a positive legislative alternative during the first 100 days of the 104th Congress to extend a fair shake to all Americans on the Progressive Promise. Our plan shall be rooted in the principles of social and economic justice, nondiscrimination, and tolerance. It shall embody national priorities which reflect the interests and needs of all the American people, not just the wealthy and powerful.

Today the Progressive Caucus in bringing to the floor for a vote our 1st in 11 alternative bills to the Republican Contract—The Fiscal Fairness Act, which allows a waiver of the balanced budget requirement in any fiscal year when the national unemployment rate exceeds 4 percent, thus sustaining our long-standing national commitment to full employment.

The second bill in the Progressive Promise is The Equal Justice Before the Law Act, which is an anticrime package that retains key aspects of the anticrime legislation enacted in 1994 to prevent crime as well as punish that which happens; to crack down on white-collar